

The Illinois Commerce Commission Announces -

A Call For Proposals For

Grants Ranging From \$5,000 to \$25,000 To Implement Railroad Safety Education and Enforcement Programs

Background:

Each year in Illinois, approximately 50 people are killed and another 50 are injured in grade crossing collisions, or while trespassing on railroad property. The ICC has recently received a grant from the Federal Railroad Administration to partner with local communities and Illinois' railroads in implementing dedicated railroad safety education and enforcement programs.

How to Apply:

Local units of government should submit a brief proposal along with a budget addressing identified railroad safety concerns in your local community. The proposal should outline the type of activity (enforcement, education, or both), the amount of effort to be expended (number of hours of enforcement, or quantify public awareness and/or education efforts) and the amount of a grant award requested to accomplish these objectives. The budget should identify how much will be spent on which activities. Forms and example programs are available on the ICC web site at: <http://www.icc.state.il.us/hg/railroadsafety.aspx>.

Deadline for Proposals: December 8, 2003

All proposals must be received at the address below, by December 8, 2003. The proposals will be reviewed in December and announcement of grant awards will be made on January 5, 2004. All grant awards must be implemented between January 5 and September 30, 2004.

Send your proposals to:

Steve Laffey, Railroad Safety Specialist
Railroad Safety Section
Illinois Commerce Commission
527 East Capitol Avenue
Springfield, Illinois 62701
Phone: (217) 785-9026
Fax: (217) 785-7404
E-Mail: slaffey@icc.state.il.us

PEERS Education Program Elements: (Number & Quality of Exposures)

- Cable access and local radio programs – brief 30 second PSAs and more in-depth 30 minute safety programs. PSAs should run consistently throughout program.
- Continuous loop video played at points of interest throughout town, such as the Metra station, Village Hall, shopping centers, schools, etc. Maximize use of PSAs already developed.
- Safety poster contest in local schools.
- “It’s the Law” safety poster campaign.
- Telephone hold message with PEERS announcement.
- Press releases and safety columns in local newspapers and media outlets.
- Safety column in the Village’s quarterly newsletter.
- Message at the top of each water bill on a bi-monthly basis.
- Operation Lifesaver training for staff; police, fire, EMT.
- Operation Lifesaver presentations made by newly trained staff.
- Town hall meetings will focus on grade crossing safety beginning with a resolution to be passed by the Village Council to kick-off the program.
- Other periodic mentions of the program made by the Mayor and Village Council members throughout the year on railroad safety related issues at “live” Council meetings.
- Mock crash – crash re-enactment as part of High School driver education class.

Enforcement Program Elements: (Hours of Enforcement & Number of Citations)

- Educational warnings throughout City, especially at identified hot spots.
- Enhanced routine patrol of entire right-of-way – trespassing citations @ \$75.
- Focused enforcement details at select grade crossings – warning device citations @ \$250.
- Trooper on the Train programs. Awareness training for law enforcement personnel.

Illinois Commerce Commission
Public Education and Enforcement Research Study (PEERS)
Railroad Safety Grant Application Form

Applicant City: _____	
Address: _____	
City: _____	State: _____
Contact Name: _____	
Contact Phone: _____	E-Mail: _____
2000 Census Population: _____	Number of Grade Crossings: _____

Proposed **Education Program** Activities: Please list in detail the type and amount of educational awareness program activities the community is committing to implement between the time of the Grant Award and September 30, 2004.

Please estimate the total amount of Media or Educational Exposure (Hours of media exposure, number of messages) that will be provided as part of this campaign.

Media Exposures: _____ Hours of Media Exposure: _____

Proposed **Enforcement Program** Activities: Please list in detail the type and amount of enforcement actions and/or details the community is committing to between the time of the Grant Award and September 30, 2004.

Total Number of Citations or Warnings Expected to be Issued?

Warnings: _____ Citations: _____

If necessary, please use additional sheets of paper to completely describe the activities for which applicant is applying to fund. **Please complete and return by December 8, 2003 to:**

Steve Laffey, Railroad Safety Specialist
Illinois Commerce Commission
527 East Capitol Avenue
Springfield, Illinois 62701
Phone: (217) 785-9026
Fax: (217) 785-7404
E-Mail: slaffey@icc.state.il.us

**Illinois Commerce Commission
Public Education and Enforcement Research Study (PEERS)
Railroad Safety Grant Application Form
Estimated Budget (Required)**

Applicant City: _____
Address: _____
State: _____
Contact Name: _____
Contact Phone: _____
Contact E-Mail: _____

Instructions: Please estimate the expenses associated with the project over time.

Activity	First Quarter Jan/Feb/Mar 2004	Second Quarter Apr/May/Jun 2004	Third Quarter Jul/Aug/Sep 2004	Total
Education Labor				
Education Materials				
Enforcement Labor				
Enforcement Materials				
Other Labor				
Other Materials				
Travel				
Total				

Please Return Completed Form By December 8, 2003 to:

Steve Laffey, Railroad Safety Specialist
Illinois Commerce Commission
527 East Capitol Avenue
Springfield, Illinois 62701
Phone: (217) 785-9026 Fax: (217) 785-7404
E-Mail: slaffey@icc.state.il.us